



Colorado Wind & Distributed Energy: Renewables for Rural Prosperity Conference 2004

April 13 & 14, 2004–The Doubletree Hotel Colorado Springs-World Arena

PRESENTED BY
Governor's Office of Energy Management and Conservation
U.S. Department of Energy

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Governor's Office of Energy Management & Conservation Sponsors Educational Wind and Distributed Energy Conference

Experts Provide Conference Attendees With Distributed Generation Examples, Costs, Benefits, and "How To's"

Denver, CO – March 11, 2004 – The Colorado Governor's Office of Energy Management and Conservation (OEMC), along with the Department of Energy's Wind Powering America division, is hosting its second biennial conference on wind and other distributed energy technologies April 13-14, at the Doubletree Hotel Colorado Springs-World Arena. The **Colorado Wind & Distributed Energy: Renewables for Rural Prosperity Conference 2004** will help educate farmers, ranchers, corporate leaders, municipalities, rural electric cooperatives, investor-owned utilities, businesses, lenders, public agencies and Colorado citizens about the economic benefits of utilizing distributed energy sources.

Colorado Springs Mayor Lionel Rivera will kick off the conference on Tuesday morning and will be joined by more than twenty local and national energy experts who will present a "nuts-and-bolts" approach to harnessing and stimulating distributed energy opportunities in Colorado.

On Tuesday, experts will provide start-to-finish, replicable case studies on successful wind projects owned by schools, municipalities and farmers. Relevant issues and proven solutions will be explored, as will wind farm development, operation, public ownership, local equity and public and private partnerships. Details on how to finance wind projects, secure grants and loans, market community wind projects and enhance profitability will also be reviewed.

Other forms of distributed generation will be covered on Wednesday, including hydrogen generation and use; turning traditional waste streams, such as manure and forest thinnings, into power; and, how distributed generation devices such as micro turbines and fuel cells, among others, can be integrated with fossil and renewable fuels to supply reliable power and save money.

"Energy sources such as wind, hydrogen, biomass and biofuels provide Coloradoans with cost-effective options that can improve quality of life," said OEMC executive director Rick Grice. "Everyone benefits statewide, and in particular, Colorado ranchers and farmers can achieve increased profitability while enhancing rural economic development."

Conference sponsors include DOE, OEMC, Western Area Power Administration, Xcel Energy, Holy Cross Electric, SeaWest, Energy Outreach Colorado, Delta Montrose Electric Association, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Tri-State Generation & Transmission, City of Lamar Light & Power, Clean Air Campaign of Pikes

Peak Region, Colorado Springs Utilities, BioEnergy Corporation, Highline Electric Association, Murray Frank Greenhouse List & Lippitt LLP, McNeil Technologies, Plug Power Inc, San Miguel Power Association, Aquila, Colorado Farm Bureau, Colorado Coalition for New Energy Technologies, Colorado Renewable Energy Society, Gunnison County Electric Association, Independent Bankers of Colorado, Rocky Mountain Farmers Union, and Western Resource Advocates.

Conference sponsorships remain available, as well as opportunities to exhibit or display a poster presentation. Field trips to key distributed energy sites will also be available to participants at a later date. The conference is open to the general public at a cost of \$85 for a two-day advance registration (price increases \$10 after March 22), and \$50 for one day. For detailed agendas, registration, and other information, visit the OEMC website www.state.co.us/oemc/events/cwade/, or call 1-800-632-6662 or 303-894-2383.

Become an active participant in the **Colorado Wind & Distributed Energy: Renewables for Rural Prosperity Conference 2004** and lead the way for Colorado's distributed generation opportunities.

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